



1146th meeting of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society

7:30PM Wednesday October 26, 2011

**Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California**

“Big Money”

What forces drive the size of coins?

Stephen Huston

1145th meeting, September 21, 2011

Jeff Shevlin presented a talk entitled:

*Charbneau So-Called Dollars
from the Golden Gate International
Exposition held in San Francisco 1939-1940*

Jules Charbneau acquired his first miniature medal at the Paris Exposition in 1900 while an apprentice seaman in the U.S. Navy. He visited the 1904 St. Louis Exposition on his honeymoon and acquired another miniature medal. He may have met Farran Zerbe at that time, but whether he did or not, he designed his own miniature gold medals made of Alaska Gold for the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle where he lived with his wife and worked for his father-in-law.

Charbneau acquired a world-class collection of miniature items and took his collection on the road, touring American and the world during the depression. He settled in San Francisco in the 1930s to work for the insurance industry as an art appraiser. He exhibited his World of Miniature Curiosities at the 1939 and 1940 Golden Gate International Exposition. He had a small gold, silver, and copper medal struck to sell in his exhibit. Today, so-called dollar specialists as well as GGIE collectors search for the tiny medals. With fewer than 500 remaining, they are difficult to acquire. Shevlin shared his knowledge of the 13 document varieties verified by personal examination.

Member exhibits:

Jack brought a binder of G.G.I.E. material featuring a "little bit of everything." Of special was an 1881 Morgan dollar engraved, "Treasure Island 1940."

Stephen shared a silver souvenir spoon from the G.G.I.E. with the Court of Pacifica in the bowl of the spoon.

David brought G.G.I.E. brochures and advertising pieces as well as a handwriting analysis from the exposition.

Ken shared a wide variety of G.G.I.E. first day covers with the official Tower stamp.

Whalen shared an official mint set from the first year of issue in 1947 in the original mint envelopes and mailer. I don't think anyone at the meeting had ever seen one before. He also shared a 1936 proof set.

Dan shared two versions of the 1904 Louisiana exposition official medal, one with and one without a star indicating the location of St. Louis. The one without the star is a rare variety struck from an unfinished die.

Herb brought several G.G.I.E. brochures and a double denomination, double struck 1962 half or quarter dollar. Double strikes of that sort are rare.

Bill shared two large 1896 satirical "Bryan Dollars", one made by Moise in San Francisco.

Raffle:

- Bill won a box of PCNS Bulletins
- Ed won a 1968 Proof set, a 1960 Lincoln cent Large and Small date set, and an "Equal Justice under Law" medal.
- Jack won a 1901-2001 English 5 Pounds commemorative.
- Dan won 5 pieces of notgeld.
- Whalen won a 1912 50 centavos from Nicaragua.

2011 meeting Schedule:

- October 26, 2011: Building C, Fort Mason,
Stephen Huston Speaker
- November 23, 2011: Building C, Fort Mason
- December 28, 2011: Building C, Fort Mason
Annual PCNS Potluck

Mapping the Pacific Coast: Coronado to Lewis and Clark A World-Class Exhibition Comes To San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Looking for something to do before the next meeting? This exhibition of 45 magnificent and rare maps, books and illustrations of Pacific Coast exploration, dated 1544 through 1802, is currently on display at the Maritime Museum, 900 Beach Street, at Polk Street, San Francisco. It closes October 31, 2011. Go to <http://www.nps.gov/safr/parknews/mappacoast.htm> for more information.

Did the Parisii celebrate Halloween? This small Celtic coin is often identified as bearing a skull on the obverse although it may be only a simple representation of a severed head!



(Attributed to the Parisii, ca. 50 B.C.)



Bronze, 18mm, 4.13gm

(Have a favorite coin, medal, or story to share? Submit your material to bill.hyder@gmail.com and see it appear on the bulletin back cover.)